

"Rick, please take a hat with you in case the sun comes back out," said Mom. "I don't want you to get burned." Rick had red hair and fair skin. He burned easily, and his mother had nagged him about wearing hats and sun lotion.

Pop had called early that Saturday morning. He wanted to know whether Rick wanted to go with him out to the farm in the country. Of course, Rick had said he would love to go, and he got ready as fast as he could.

It took about an hour to drive out to the farm, which Pop had bought when he retired from the glass factory. The farm was 128 acres of land with trees, fields, and rich soil for growing crops. Pop never grew big crops, however; he mainly worked in his garden.

The garden was full of good things to eat. Pop grew lettuce, onions, cantaloupe, watermelon, cucumbers, squash, cauliflower, peppers, and tomatoes. Rick did not like the onions or squash, but he loved watermelons, and Pop let him pick as many as he wanted.

As soon as they got to the farm, Rick picked a watermelon and put it in the creek. The creek was shady, and the water was ice cold; so by the afternoon, the two could break the melon open and eat it chilled.

Then Pop started the loud water pump. The two began the long task of watering the garden by hand. The plants needed a great deal of water to grow. Pop and Rick walked up and down each row with hoses, watering each plant with the right amount of water. After they had finished their task, they stopped to eat lunch. Pop had made peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and had packed two cokes and some chips. Then they started picking the things that they wanted to take home with them, which was the best part of their trip. Rick chose three

watermelons and put them into the car while Pop picked some of everything. They walked down to the creek and ate the deliciously juicy and cool watermelon. It was the best way to end the fun day they had spent together at the farm.

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